

**The Long War Against God:
“The Seed of the Woman, The Cain Mutiny”
Gen. 3:15**

Some Theme Scripture:

[READ] Gen. 3:15 "And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He will bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel.

Review:

- ***In our last fellowship we looked into the profound suffering of innocents, firstly, the innocent children destroyed by King Herod in Bethlehem, and then, the sinless Lord Jesus.***

Regarding the slaughter of the innocent children, we read in Matt. 2:16-18:

16 Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceeding wroth, and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently enquired of the wise men.

17 Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremy the prophet, saying,

18 In Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not.

- ***I chose to begin here as our first encounter with The Long War Against God in a story often entitled “the slaughter or massacre of the innocents”. We could have begin in many other places as well, but a common theme in all of these accounts is suffering. The Lord God has intersected with human history in ways too remarkable for our limited human minds to comprehend, AND USUALLY NOT APART FROM GREAT SUFFERING, I MIGHT ADD. BUT WE MUST NEVER FORGET THAT HUMAN SUFFERING CAN NEVER BE COMPARED WITH THAT OF OUR LORD GOD. AND SO IT WAS IN ISRAEL IN THOSE DAYS DESIGNATED IN SCRIPTURE AS “THE FULLNESS OF THE TIME”:***

Gal. 4:4-5 But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, To redeem them that were

under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.

- ***Indeed, all of human history had ultimately to be focused on God's Son.***
- ***THAT IS THE NATURE OF THE REDEMPTIVE PLAN OF ALMIGHTY GOD! THE LORD GOD INTERSECTED WITH HUMAN HISTORY IN ORDER TO ACCOMPLISH HIS REDEMPTIVE PLAN. AND THAT REQUIRED THE INCARNATION AND THEN THE DEATH, BURIAL, AND RESURRECTION OF THE VERY SON OF GOD HIMSELF, OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, AS THE LAMB THAT TAKETH AWAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD.***
- ***Our key scripture for the revelation of this sacred secret regarding the redemptive plan of of God for us Gentiles was found in 1 Corinthians:***

1 Cor. 2:6-9

6 Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought:

7 But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory:

8 Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

9 But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

- ***So, we saw that the common theme in these scripture passages is a suffering, a profound and deep kind of suffering that many might consider unfathomable, immeasurable. How can we possibly grasp the full extent of it?***

On the one hand, this suffering is that of innocent children, we might say, the weakest and most vulnerable ones in Bethlehem, and we read here that they died a horrible death at King Herod's hand. That is part of human history as recorded in the Bible.

On the other hand, the suffering of our Lord Jesus is the suffering of another innocent one, one singled out even from eternity past. This one is the Son of God himself who suffered for the sins of the world and died the death of sinners on Calvary's shameful and contemptible cross of Calvary.

And there is surely this “scarlet thread” connecting the two in the Redemptive Plan of Almighty God. Amen and praise his name, now and forever.

Transition:

- ***THE QUESTION WE ASKED AT THE BEGINNING OF OUR LAST FELLOWSHIP WAS THIS: What is the connection between these, what is this thread, the “scarlet thread” perhaps, that ties them both together inevitably and for all eternity?***
- ***The answer lies in the whole story of the ages, and in how the original promise of Gen. 3:15 will be worked out in the course of time.***
- ***We saw the key to the answer to our question revealed here in what Paul calls here the “secret” of the times of our Lord’s incarnation. It was necessary that the Lord of glory enter into this world of sin and death in order to fulfill his eternal and redemptive purpose. But Satan and his emissaries were aligned against his coming because of the promise of “the seed” given in Gen. 3:15, and, amazingly, THEY DID NOT UNDERSTAND THE REDEMPITIVE PLAN OF GOD, FOR IF THEY HAD, THEY WOULD NOT HAVE CRUCIFIED THE LORD OF GLORY! AMEN.***

Gen. 3:15 "And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He will bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel."

In each of our studies on this subject, we will again focus on the spiritual tension between those two themes, on the Lord God’s work on the one hand, and Satan’s work on the other, the two directly in opposition, the one consistently against the other. The Long War Against God is all about this promise in Gen. 3:15 and Satan’s continual attempts to thwart this redemptive purpose of Almighty God.

- ***We have seen how, throughout history, God’s Work has been Focused on His Theme, even on “The SEED, THE SEED OF THE WOMAN” . . . AND THEREFORE SO HAS SATAN’S!***
- ***WE SAW THAT IN MATT. 2 LAST TIME. Satan’s work was to destroy the royal line leading to Messiah! But God always thwarted his plan though for us earth-dwellers it has not always been clear who was in the end the victor. And the Bible records the entire story, praise the Lord. It is all for our edification***

(1 Cor. 10:11)

- **So if we are careful to study the Scripture in relation to the Messianic line, we should expect to see Satan at work as well as God, one against the other...**
 - **Sometimes the warfare regards the entire nation of Israel - if Satan can destroy the nation as a whole, he will surely destroy the plan of God for the chosen and favored nation, Israel. And, since many promises had been made in the Scriptures, this would have given Satan the victory!**
 - **Sometimes it is more highly focused, regarding the specific branch of the Godly tree from which the Savior must ultimately come (1 Sam. 23 & 24 and others)**
 - **Sometimes it may even regard the only son still remaining of the royal and messianic line that we know leads to our savior, the Lord Jesus Christ!!**
 - **And, sometimes it involves the innocent children as here in Bethlehem.**
- **We will look at some of these examples in our study of the long war against God -- firstly, with the tragedy of Cain & Abel..., or, as we shall title this today, "The Cain Mutiny".**

I. The Long War Against God - Its Beginning

- **At the very beginning, you will recall, was Lucifer's rebellion and fall from heaven's glory**
 - **Lucifer's pride overcame him as he considers himself to be even above his creator in beauty, knowledge, wisdom and power (see Is. 14 & Ez. 28 for all the details). Though he was at the summit of God's creation in every way, he was not satisfied and wanted to be even higher, to be equal with or even above the Creator himself.**
 - **In his judgment he is cast from the Third Heaven and his name is changed: to Satan, or, in Hebrew, THE ADVERSARY.**
- **This brings us to Satan's first encounter with mankind in the Garden of Eden:**
 - **The Lord God replaces Lucifer in the Garden of Eden with a new creation, Adam. And then Eve is brought forth from Adam's side.**

- *Adam is given the dominion that had been Lucifer's alone and the conflict of the ages is spawned.*
- *Through lies, Satan deceives Eve into partaking of the forbidden fruit of a particular tree, the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.*
- *She leads Adam to also partake of the fruit even though he knows the consequences of so doing.*

So, the beginning of the Long War occurs in the heavens itself. Then it is manifested on earth and in the Garden of Eden as Satan is cast out of heaven and onto the earth and as he in course of time successfully leads both Eve and Adam into rebellion against the Lord God. The consequences of this are immeasurable.

II. The Long War Against God - - Its Motivation

- ***What is Satan's motivation in this long war?***
 - ***Satan knows the promise of God in Genesis 3:15:***

Gen. 3:15 "And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He will bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel."
 - ***He knows that God will work to accomplish his purpose through the seed of the woman. Note well the prophecy here regarding this long war against God. Satan will be allowed to bruise the heel (as a serpent would), but the Lord God WILL be victorious and he will surely bruise the head of Satan, dealing, as it were, a deathly blow.***
- ***So Eve bears a son, Cain --- and then a second son, Abel!***
 - ***Which one is the "SEED", that is Satan's big question. Everything he does must now be focused on overcoming the work of the Lord God since otherwise he himself will be destroyed and God will be the VICTOR! If only Satan took God at his word! All of this would have been avoided.***

So we have seen how the Long War began. And now, the motivation of Satan seems to be clear. It will be all about God and his word of truth. Will God be "true and every man a liar", or will Satan be victorious with his lies?

III. The Long War Against God - Its Development: The Cain Mutiny - Part 1

- ***Now, as we shall see, Satan is not omniscient and does not know how long that will take or what course it will follow -- he does not even know who the***

seed is and how to identify him!

- ***So he must study carefully what is happening on earth beginning just east of Eden where Adam & Eve now dwell, having been cast out of the Garden.***
- ***He will set his course and work therefore against what God appears to be doing in bringing forth this “seed” of the woman.***

[Read] Gen. 4:1-7

1 And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man [from] the LORD.

2 And she again bare his brother Abel. And Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground.

3 ***And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the LORD.***

4 And Abel, he ***also*** brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering:

5 ***But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect.*** And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell.

6 And the LORD said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen?

7 If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, [the] sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him.

[Read]] Gen. 4:8-12

8 And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him.

9 And the LORD said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: Am I my brother's keeper?

10 And he said, What hast thou done? the voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground.

11 And now art thou cursed from the earth, which hath opened her mouth to receive thy brother's blood from thy hand;

12 When thou tillest the ground, it shall not henceforth yield unto thee her strength; a fugitive and a vagabond shalt thou be in the earth.

- ***Our Outline (the same for each of our studies) now springs forth from these verses:***
 - ***The circumstances: Adam has two sons, Cain first and then Abel (Gen. 4:1-2)***
 - ***"Cain" - means "acquisition" - Eve "acquired" Cain!***
 - ***"Abel" - means "transitoriness" - and indeed he was***

- **Satan's tool, in this phase of the War, was Cain, Adam's first born**
- **His "strategy": Anger due to pride, envy and human religion**
 - **Cain's offering was rejected / Abel's was "respected" v. 3-5**
- **Satan's "victory": Murder of the apparent "seed" v. 8**
- **God's intervention: Banishment & a curse vv. 11-12**
- **Satan's defeat: Even though both sons have been set aside, God's plan goes on - what a significant defeat for Satan!**
- **God's encouragement: Adam & Eve are given yet a third son, by the Lord God, Seth (name meaning "substituted")!**

So the development of Satan's war continues in the Cain Mutiny! It all began in heaven. Now on earth both Adam and Eve have been infected with sin and rebellion. And now their children! The war develops as the eldest son has now murdered the youngest! Why, we might ask, would Cain carry out such a crime?

But Scripture does provide the answers... Next time we shall see what they are as we see how God had provided an Exemplar.

In Luke we find the key:

Luke 11:50-51 "Therefore the wisdom of God also said, I will send them prophets and apostles, and some of them they shall slay and persecute, so that the blood of all the prophets, which was shed from the foundation of the world, may be required of this generation; from the blood of Abel to the blood of Zechariah, who perished between the altar and the temple. Truly I say to you, It shall be required of this generation."

- ***What we shall see as we continue in our next fellowship is this:***
 - ***Sacrifice was commanded by God from the beginning***
 - ***Abel was the first prophet according to our Lord Jesus (Luke 11:50-51), demonstrated by his testimony what God expected***
 - ***Religion, first with Cain's example, perverted the truth of God***
 - ***God accepted the one sacrifice but not the other***

- ***Fire from heaven was the proof given, or so it seems. This will be our theme next week as we consider in detail a fundamental teaching of Scripture regarding God as “a consuming fire” (Heb. 12:29).***

God's Exhortation for Us Today

Pure and authentic worship is under grace is our privilege today. This requires that each believer enter into the fullness of the new life that God has provided to each of us, a resurrection quality of life. This life abounds to overflowing through the working of the Spirit of God within each of us believers. It is really that simple. Religion has been banished and replaced with something far, far better.

This has nothing to do with law works but everything to do with faith.

Enjoy the Lord, believers.